

CLAIMS

1. An information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in an enlarged form at a first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit and displaying at least a character or an image in an intended area newly opened on the screen in the enlarged form at the first magnification rate, comprising:

detection means for detecting whether a request for opening said intended area is issued;

determining means for determining a second magnification rate for said intended area from said first magnification rate, the size of said intended area as displayed on the screen, and the size assigned to said intended area to be enlarged on the screen; and

enlarged display means for displaying said intended area on the display screen in an enlarged form in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

2. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said determining means includes:

means for correcting said second magnification rate upward in the case where the size of said intended area as displayed on the screen is larger than the size of said intended area;

means for maintaining said second magnification rate as it is in the case where the size of said intended area as displayed on the screen is equal to the size of said intended area; and

means for correcting said second magnification rate downward in the case where the size of said intended area as displayed on an enlarged screen is smaller than the size of said intended area.

3. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said determining means calculates said second magnification rate from the size of said intended

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area as displayed on the screen and from the size of the whole display screen; and

said enlarged display means displays said intended area in an enlarged form on the display screen in accordance with said second magnification rate calculated by said determining means.

4. An information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in an enlarged form at a first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit and displaying at least a character or an image in an intended area newly opened on the screen in the enlarged form at said first magnification rate, comprising:

detection means for detecting whether a request for opening said intended area is issued;

determining means for determining a second magnification rate for said intended area from said first magnification rate, the size of the character in said intended area as displayed on the screen, and the size of the character on said display screen; and

enlarged display means for displaying said character or said image in said intended area on the display screen in an enlarged form in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

5. An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said determining means includes:

means for correcting said second magnification rate upward in the case where the size of the character displayed in an enlarged form according to said first magnification rate is larger than the size of the character displayed in the intended area in an enlarged form according to said second magnification rate;

means for maintaining said second magnification rate in the case where the size of the character displayed in the enlarged form according to

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said first magnification rate is equal to the size of the character displayed in the intended area in the enlarged form according to said second magnification rate; and

means for correcting said second magnification rate downward in the case where the size of the character displayed in the enlarged form according to said first magnification rate is larger than the size of the character displayed in the intended area in the enlarged form according to said second magnification rate.

6. An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein:

~~said determining means calculates said second magnification rate in such a manner that the size of the character displayed in an enlarged form according to the first magnification rate is equal to the size of the character displayed in the intended area in an enlarged form according to said second magnification rate; and~~

said enlarged display means displays the character in said intended area in the enlarged form on said display screen in accordance with said second magnification rate calculated by said determining means.

7. An information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in an enlarged form at a first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit and displaying at least a character or an image in an intended area newly opened on the screen in the enlarged form at said first magnification rate, comprising:

 detection means for detecting whether a request for opening said intended area is issued;

determining means for determining a second magnification rate of said intended area as displayed on the screen from the first magnification rate, the size of the character in said intended area as displayed on the screen, and a specified character size in the case where

said detection means detects that a request is issued for opening said intended area; and

enlarged display means for displaying said character or said image in said intended area in an enlarged form in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

8. An information processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said determining means includes:

means for correcting said second magnification rate upward in the case where the size of the character displayed in an enlarged form according to said first magnification rate is larger than the size of the character displayed in the intended area in an enlarged form according to said second magnification rate;

means for maintaining said second magnification rate in the case where the size of the character displayed in the enlarged form according to said first magnification rate is equal to the size of the character displayed in the intended area in the enlarged form according to said second magnification rate; and

means for correcting said second magnification rate downward in the case where the size of the character displayed in the enlarged form according to said first magnification rate is larger than the size of the character displayed in the intended area in the enlarged form according to said second magnification rate.

9. An information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in an enlarged form at a first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit and displaying at least a character or an image in an intended area newly opened on the screen in the enlarged form at said first magnification rate, comprising:

scrolling means for scrolling said intended area displayed in an enlarged form in a

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designated scrolling direction in response to a scroll
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detection means for detecting whether the trailing end of said intended area scrolled in said scrolling direction in accordance with the scrolling process by said scrolling means has reached a state displayable on said display screen; and

prohibition means for prohibiting said intended window from being further scrolled in said scrolling direction by said scrolling means in the case where said detection means detects that the trailing end of said intended area is in a displayable state.

10. An information processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 9, further comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of
at least a character or an image displayed on said
display screen before opening said intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen the display state of said intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when ~~erasing said intended area.~~

11. A recording medium readable by a computer and having recorded therein a program used for realizing an information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in an enlarged form at a first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit and displaying at least a character or an image in an intended area newly opened on the screen in the enlarged form at said first magnification rate, said information processing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting whether a request for opening said intended area is issued;

determining means for determining a second magnification rate for said intended area from said first magnification rate, the size of said intended area as displayed on the screen, and the size assigned to said

intended area to be displayed on the screen; and

enlarged display means for displaying said intended area on the display screen in an enlarged form in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

12. A recording medium readable by a computer and having recorded therein a program used for realizing an information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in an enlarged form at a first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit and displaying at least a character or an image in an intended area newly opened on the screen in the enlarged form at said first magnification rate, said information processing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting whether a request for opening said intended area is issued;

determining means for determining a second magnification rate of said intended area as displayed on the screen from said first magnification rate, the size of a character in said intended area as displayed on the screen, and the size of the character on said display screen; and

enlarged display means for displaying the character or the image in said intended area on the display screen in the enlarged form in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

13. A recording medium readable by a computer and having recorded therein a program used for realizing an information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in an enlarged form at a first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit and displaying at least a character or an image in an intended area newly opened on the screen in the enlarged form at said first magnification rate, said information processing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting whether a

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request for opening said intended area is issued;

determining means for determining a second magnification rate at which said intended area is displayed in an enlarged form on the screen, from said first magnification rate, the size of the character in said intended area as displayed on the screen, and a specified character size when said detection means detects that a request for opening said intended area is issued; and enlarged display means for displaying the character or image in said intended area on the display screen in an enlarged form in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

14. A recording medium readable by a computer and having recorded therein a program used for realizing an information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image at a first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit and displaying at least a character or an image in an intended area newly opened on the screen at said first magnification rate, said information processing apparatus comprising:

scrolling means for scrolling said intended area displayed in an enlarged form in a designated scrolling direction in response to a scroll request;

detection means for detecting whether the trailing end of said intended area scrolled in said scrolling direction in accordance with the scrolling process by said scrolling means has reached a state displayable on said display screen; and

prohibition means for prohibiting said intended area from being further scrolled by said scrolling means in the case where said detection means detects that the trailing end of said intended area is displayed.

15. A recording medium readable by a computer and further having recorded therein a program for realizing

said information processing apparatus according to any one of claims 11 to 14, said information processing apparatus comprising:

- 5 memory means for storing the coordinate of
at least a character or an image displayed on said
display screen before opening said intended area; and
 restoration means for restoring and
displaying on said display screen the display state of
said intended area immediately before being opened on the
10 basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when
erasing said intended area.

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